MARYLAND
CHARTER,

Granted by King CHARLES the FIRST,

To CÆCILIUS, Lord Baron of BALTIMORE.

Tranſlated from the Latin Original.

CHARLES, by the grace of God, King of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, defender of the faith, &c. To all to whom theſe preſents ſhall come, greeting. Whereas our right truſty and well beloved ſubject, Cæciljus Calvert, Baron of Baltimore, in our kingdom of Ireland, ſon and heir of Sir George Calvert, Knight, late Baron of Baltimore in the ſame kingdom of Ireland, purſuing his father's intentions, being excited with a laudable and pious zeal for the propagation of the Chriſtian faith, and the enlargement of our empire and dominion, hath humbly beſought leave of Us, by his induſtry and charge, to tranſport an ample Colony of the Engliſh nation unto a certain country hereafter deſcribed, in the parts of America not yet cultivated and planted, though in ſome parts thereof inhabited by certain barbarous people, having no knowledge of Almighty God; and hath humbly beſought Our Royal Majeſty to give grant, and confirm the ſaid country, with certain privileges and juriſdictions, requiſite for the ſaid government and ſtate of his Colony and country aforeſaid, to him and his Heirs for ever.

Know ye therefore, That We, favouring the pious and noble purpoſe of the ſaid Barons of Baltimore, of Our ſpecial grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have given, granted, and confirmed, and by this our preſent Charter, for Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, do give, grant, and confirm unto the ſaid Cæcilius, now Baron of Baltimore, his Heirs and Aſſigns, all that part of a Peninſula, lying in the parts of America, between the ocean on the Eaſt, and the Bay of Cheſapeak on the Weſt, and divided from the other part thereof by a right line drawn from the Promontory or Cape of Land, called Watkins Point (ſituate in the aforeſaid bay, near the river of Wighco) on the Weſt, unto the main Ocean on the Eaſt; and between that bound on the South, unto that part of Delaware bay on the North, which lieth under the fortieth degree of Northerly latitude from the equinoctial, where New-England ends: and all that tract of land between the bounds aforeſaid; that is to ſay, paſſing from the aforeſaid, unto the foreſaid bay called Delaware bay, in a right line by the degree aforeſaid, unto the true meridian of the firſt fountain of the river Potowmack; and from thence tending toward the South unto the further bank of the aforeſaid river, and following the Weſt and South ſide thereof unto a certain place called Cinquack, ſituate near the mouth of the ſaid river, where it falls into the bay of Cheſapeak; and from thence by a ſtreight line unto the aforeſaid Promontary, and place called Watkins Point (ſo that all that tract of land divided by the line aforeſaid, drawn between the main ocean and Watkins Point, unto the Promontary called Cape Charles, and all it's appurtenances, do remain entirely, excepted to Us, Our Heirs, and Succeſſors, for ever.)

We do alſo grant and confirm unto the ſaid Lord Baltimore, his Heirs and Aſſigns, all iſlands and iſlets within the limits aforeſaid, and all and ſingular the iſlands and iſlets which are, or ſhall be in the ocean, within ten leagues from the Eaſtern ſhore of the ſaid country towards the Eaſt, with all and ſingular ports, harbours, bays, rivers, and inlets, belonging unto the country and iſlands aforeſaid: and all the ſoil, lands, fields, woods, mountains, fens, lakes, rivers, bays, and inlets, ſituate or being within the bounds and limits aforeſaid; with the fiſhing of all ſorts of fiſh, whales, ſturgeons, and all other royal fiſhes in the ſea, bays, inlets, or rivers, within the premiſes, and the fiſh therein taken. And moreover all veins, mines, and quarries, as well diſcovered as not diſcovered, of gold, ſilver, gems, and precious ſtones, and all other whatſoever, be it of ſtones, metals, or of any other thing or matter whatſoever, found, or to be found, within the country, iſles and limits aforeſaid. And furthermore, the patronages and advowſons of all churches, which (as Chriſtian religion ſhall increaſe within the country, iſles, iſlets, and limits aforeſaid) ſhall happen hereafter to be erected; together with licence and power to build and found churches, chapels, and oratories, in convenient and fit places within the premiſes, and to cauſe them to be dedicated and conſecrated according to the eccleſiaſtical laws of our kingdom of England: Together with all and ſingular the like, and as ample rights, juriſdictions, privileges, prerogatives, royalties, liberties, immunities, royal rights and franchiſes, of what kind ſoever, temporal, as well by ſea as by land, within the country, iſles, iſlets, and limits aforeſaid; to have, exerciſe, uſe and enjoy the ſame, as amply as any Biſhop of Durham, within the Biſhoprick or county palatine of Durham, in Our kingdom of England, hath

hath at any time heretofore had, held, uſed, or enjoyed, or of right ought or might have had, held, uſed, or enjoyed.

And him the ſaid now Lord Baltimore, his Heirs and Aſſigns, We do by theſe preſents for Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, make, create, and conſtitute the true and abſolute Lords and Proprietaries of the ſaid country aforeſaid, and of all other the premiſes, (except before excepted) ſaving always the faith and allegiance, and ſovereign dominion due unto Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, to have, hold, poſſeſs, and enjoy the ſaid country, iſles, inlets, and other the premiſes, unto the ſaid now Lord Baltimore, his Heirs and Aſſigns, to the ſole and proper uſe and behoof of him the ſaid now Lord Baltimore, his Heirs and Aſſigns, for ever.

To be holden of Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, Kings of England, as of Our Caſtle of Windſor, in Our county of Berks, in free and common ſoccage, by fealty only, for all ſervices, and not *in capite*, or by Knights ſervice; yielding and paying therefore to Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, two Indian arrows of thoſe parts, to be delivered at Our ſaid Caſtle of Windſor, every year the Tueſday in Eaſter week, and alſo the fifth part of all gold and ſilver ore, within the limits aforeſaid, which ſhall from time to time happen to be found.

Now, that the ſaid country, thus by Us granted and deſcribed, may be eminent above all other parts of the ſaid territory, and dignified with larger titles; Know ye, that We of Our further grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, have thought fit to erect the ſame country and iſlands into a province; as out of the fulneſs of Our Royal Power and Prerogative, We do for Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, erect and incorporate them into a province, and do call it Maryland, and ſo from henceforth We will have it called.

And foraſmuch as We have hereby made and ordained the aforeſaid now Lord Baltimore, the true Lord and Proprietary of all the province aforeſaid: Know ye therefore, that We repoſing ſpecial truſt and confidence in the fidelity, wiſdom, juſtice, and provident circumſpection of the ſaid now Lord Baltimore, for Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, do grant free, full, and abſolute power, by virtue of theſe Preſents, to him and his Heirs, for the good and happy government of the ſaid country, to ordain, make, enact, and under his and their Seals to publiſh any laws whatſoever, appertaining either unto the public ſtate of the ſaid province, or unto the private utility of particular perſons, according to their beſt diſcretions, by and with the advice, aſſent, and approbation of the Freemen of the ſaid province, or the greater part of them, or of their Delegates or Deputies, whom for the enacting of the ſaid laws, when and as often as need ſhall require, We will, that the ſaid now Lord Baltimore, and his Heirs, ſhall aſſemble in ſuch ſort and form as to him and them ſhall ſeem beſt, and the ſaid laws duly to execute upon all people within the ſaid province and limits thereof, for the time being, or that ſhall be conſtituted under the government and power of him or them, either ſailing towards Maryland, or returning from thence toward England, or any other of Ours or foreign dominions, by impoſition of penalties, impriſonment, or any other puniſhment: Yea, if it ſhall be needful, and that the quality of the offence require it, by taking away members or life, either by him the ſaid now Lord Baltimore, and his Heirs, or by his or their Deputies, Lieutenants, Judges, Juſtices, Magiſtrates, Officers, and Miniſters, to be ordained or appointed, according to the tenor and true intention of theſe preſents; and likewiſe to appoint and eſtabliſh any Judges, Juſtices, Magiſtrates and Officers, whatſoever, at ſea and land, for what cauſe ſoever, and with what power ſoever, and in ſuch form as to the ſaid now Lord Baltimore, or his Heirs, ſhall ſeem moſt convenient; alſo to remit, releaſe, pardon, and aboliſh, whether before judgment or after, all crimes and offences whatſoever, againſt the ſaid laws, and to do all and every other thing or things, which unto the complete eſtabliſhment of juſtice unto Courts, Prætories, and Tribunals, forms of judicature, and manners of proceedings, do belong, although in theſe Preſents expreſs mention be not made thereof; and by Judges by them delegated to award proceſs, hold pleas, and determine, in all the ſaid Courts and Tribunals, all actions, ſuits, and cauſes whatſoever, as well criminal as civil, perſonal, real, mixt, and prætoreal, which laws, ſo, as aforeſaid, to be publiſhed, Our Pleaſure is, and ſo We injoin, require, and command, ſhall be moſt abſolute and available in law; and that all the liege people and ſubjects of Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, do obſerve and keep the ſame inviolably, in thoſe parts, ſo far as they concern them, under the pains therein expreſſed, or to be expreſſed; provided nevertheleſs, That the ſaid laws be conſonant to reaſon, and be not repugnant or contrary, but, as near as conveniently may be, agreeable to the laws, ſtatutes, and rights of this Our kingdom of England.

And foraſmuch as in the government of ſo great a province, ſudden accidents do often happen, whereunto it will be neceſſary to apply a remedy, before the freeholders of the ſaid province, or their delegates or deputies, can be aſſembled to the making of laws; neither will it be convenient, that inſtantly, upon every ſuch emergent occaſion, ſo great a multitude ſhould be called together; therefore, for the better government of the ſaid province, We will and ordain, and by theſe preſents, for us, Our heirs and ſucceſſors, do grant unto the ſaid now Lord Baltimore, and his heirs, by themſelves, or by their magiſtrates and officers, in that behalf duly to be ordained, as aforeſaid, to make and conſtitute fit and wholeſome ordinances, from time to time, within the ſaid province, to be kept and obſerved as well for the preſervation of the the peace, as for the better government of the people there inhabiting, and publickly to notify the ſame, to all perſons whom the ſame doth or may any way concern; which ordinances, Our Pleaſure is, ſhall be obſerved inviolably, within the ſaid Province, under the pains therein to be expreſſed; ſo as the ſaid ordinances be conſonant to reaſon, and be not repugnant nor contrary, but ſo far as conveniently may be, agreeable to the laws and ſtatutes of the kingdom of England; and ſo as the ſaid ordinances

be

be not extended in any ſort, to bind, charge, or take away the right or intereſt of any perſon or perſons, or of their life, members, freehold, goods or chattels.

Furthermore, that this new Colony may the more happily encreaſe by the multitude of people reſorting thither, and may likewiſe be the more ſtrongly defended from the incurſions of ſavages, or other enemies, pyrates and robbers: therefore We, for Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, do give and grant, by theſe preſents, power, licence, and liberty, unto all the liege people and ſubjects, both preſent and future, of Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, (excepting thoſe who ſhall be ſpecially forbidden) to tranſport themſelves and families unto the ſaid province, with convenient ſhipping, and fitting proviſions, and thereto ſettle themſelves, dwell and inhabit, and to build and fortify caſtles, forts, and other places of ſtrength, for the public, and their own private defence, at the appointment of the ſaid now Lord Baltimore and his Heirs, the ſtatute of fugitives, or any other whatſoever, the contrary of the premiſes, in any wiſe notwithſtanding.

And We will alſo, and of Our more ſpecial grace, for Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, We do ſtrictly enjoyn, conſtitute, ordain and command, That the ſaid province ſhall be of Our allegiance, and that all and ſingular the ſubjects and liege people of Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, tranſported or to be tranſported into the ſaid province, and the children of them, and of ſuch as ſhall deſcend from them, there already born, or hereafter to be born, be, and ſhall be denizens and lieges of Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, of Our kingdoms of England and Ireland, and be in all things held, treated, reputed and eſteemed, as the liege faithful people of Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, born within Our kingdom of England; and likewiſe, any lands, tenements, revenues, ſervices, and other hereditaments whatſoever, within Our kingdom of England, and other Our dominions, may inherit, or otherwiſe purchaſe, receive, take, have, hold, buy and poſſeſs, and them may occupy and enjoy, give, ſell, alien and bequeath, as likewiſe all liberties, franchiſes and privileges, of this Our kingdom of England, freely, quietly and peaceably, have and poſſeſs, occupy and enjoy, as Our liege people, born, or to be born, within Our ſaid kingdom of England, without the let, moleſtation, vexation, trouble or grievance of Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors; any ſtatute, act, ordinance or proviſion to the contrary thereof notwithſtanding.

And furthermore, that our ſubjects may be the rather encouraged to undertake this expedition with ready and chearful minds, know ye, That We, of Our ſpecial grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, do give and grant, by virtue of theſe preſents, as well unto the ſaid now Lord Baltimore, and his Heirs, as well to all others, who ſhall, from time to time, repair unto the ſaid country with a purpoſe to inhabit there, or to trade with the natives of the ſaid province, full licence to lade and freight in any ports whatſoever, of Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, and into the ſaid province of Maryland, by them, their ſervants or aſſigns, to tranſport all and ſingular their goods, wares, and merchandize, as likewiſe all ſorts of grain whatſoever, and all other things whatſoever neceſſary for food or cloathing, not prohibited by the laws and ſtatutes of Our kingdoms and dominions to be carried out of the ſaid kingdoms, any ſtatute, act, ordinance or other thing whatſoever to the contrary notwithſtanding, without any lett or moleſtation of Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, or of any the Heir of Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors; ſaving always to Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, the legal impoſitions, cuſtoms, and other duties and payments for the ſaid wares and merchandize, any ſtatute, act, ordinance, or other thing whatſoever to the contrary notwithſtanding.

And becauſe in ſo remote a country, and ſituate near ſo many barbarous nations, the incurſions as well of the Savages themſelves, as of other enemies, pirates, and robbers, may probably be feared, therefore we have given, and for Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, do give power by theſe preſents unto the ſaid now Lord Baltimore, his Heirs and Aſſigns, by themſelves, or their Captains, or other their Officers, to levy, muſter, and train all ſorts of men, of what condition, or whereſoever born, in the ſaid province of Maryland, for the time being, and to make war, and purſue the enemies and robbers aforeſaid, as well by ſea as by land, yea, even without the limits of the ſaid province, and (by God's aſſiſtance) to vanquiſh and take them; and being taken, to put them to death, by the law of war, or to ſave them, at their pleaſure; and to do all and every other thing which unto the charge and office of a Captain-General of an army belongeth, or hath accuſtomed to belong, as fully and freely as any Captain-General of an army hath ever had the ſame.

Alſo, Our Will and is, and by this Our Charter, We do give unto the ſaid now Lord Baltimore, his Heirs and Aſſigns, full power, liberty and authority, in caſe of rebellion, tumult or ſedition, if any ſhould happen (which God forbid) either upon the land, within the province aforeſaid, or upon the main ſea, in making a voyage thither, or returning from thence, by themſelves, or their Captains, Deputies, or other Officers, to be authorized under their Seals for that purpoſe (to whom We alſo, for Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, do give and grant by theſe preſents, full power and authority) to exerciſe martial law againſt mutinous and ſeditious perſons of thoſe parts, ſuch as ſhall refuſe to ſubmit themſelves to his or their government, or ſhall refuſe to ſerve in the wars, or ſhall fly to the enemy, or forſake their Enſigns, or be Loiterers or Straglers, or otherways however offending againſt the law, cuſtom and diſcipline military, as freely and in as ample manner and form as any Captain-General of an army, by virtue of his Office, might, or hath accuſtomed to uſe the ſame.

Furthermore, That the way to honours and dignities may not ſeem to be altogether precluded and ſhut up to men well-born, and ſuch as ſhall prepare themſelves unto this preſent plantation, and ſhall deſire to deſerve well of Us and Our kingdoms, both in peace and war, in ſo far diſtant and remote a country: Therefore We, for Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, do give free and abſolute power unto the ſaid now Lord Baltimore, his Heirs and Aſſigns, to confer favours, rewards and honours, upon ſuch

inhabitants,

inhabitants, within the province aforesaid, as shall deserve the same, and to invest them with what titles and dignities soever as he shall think fit (so as they be not such as are now used in England,) as likewise to erect and incorporate towns into boroughs, and boroughs into cities, with convenient privileges and immunities, according to the merit of the inhabitants, and fitness of the places; and to do all and every other thing or things, touching the premises, which to him or them shall seem meet and requisite; albeit they be such as of their own nature might otherwise require a more special commandment and warrant than in these presents is expressed.

We will also, and by these presents, for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, do give and grant license, by this Our Charter, unto the said now Lord Baltimore, his Heirs and Assigns, and to all the inhabitants and dwellers in the said Province aforesaid both present and to come, to import unlade, by themselves or their servants, factors or assigns, all merchandizes and goods whatsoever, that shall arise of the fruits and commodities of the said Province, either by land or sea, into any of the ports of Us, Our Heirs and successors, in Our kingdoms of England or Ireland, or otherwise to dispose of the said goods, in the said ports, and if need be, within one year next after the unlading of the same, to lade the said merchandizes and goods again, into the same or other ships, and to export the same into any other countries, either of our dominion or foreign, (being in amity with Us, Our Heirs and Successors.) Provided always, That they pay such customs, impositions, subsidies and duties for the same, to Us, Our Heirs and Successors, as the rest of Our subjects of Our kingdom of England, for the time being, shall be bound to pay; beyond which, We will not that the inhabitants of the aforesaid Province of Maryland shall be any way charged.

And furthermore, of our more ample and special grace, certain knowledge, and mere motion, We do, for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, grant unto the said now Lord Baltimore, his Heirs and Assigns, full and absolute power and authority to make, erect, and constitute, within the said Province of Maryland, and the isles and islets aforesaid, such and so many sea-ports, harbours, creeks, and other places, for discharging and unlading of goods and merchandizes out of the ships, boats and other vessels, and lading them in such and so many places, and with such rights, jurisdictions, and liberties, and privileges unto the said ports belonging, as to him or them shall seem most expedient; and that all and singular the ships, boats, and other vessels, which shall come for merchandize and trade into the said Province, or out of the same shall depart, shall be laden or unladen only at such ports as shall be so erected and constituted by the said now Lord Baltimore, his Heirs or Assigns; any use, custom, or other things to the contrary notwithstanding: Saving always unto Us, Our Heirs and Successors, and to all the subjects (of Our Kingdoms of England and Ireland) of Us, Our Heirs and Successor, free liberty of fishing for sea fish, as well in the sea, bays, inlets, and navigable rivers, as in the harbours, bays, and creeks of the province aforesaid, and the privileges of salting and drying their fish on the shore of the said province, and for the same cause, to cut and take under-wood or twigs there growing, and to build cottages and sheds necessary in this behalf, as they heretofore have, or might reasonably have used; which liberties and privileges, nevertheless, the subjects aforesaid of Us, Our Heirs and Successors, shall enjoy without any notable damage, or injury to be done, to the said now Lord Baltimore, his Heirs or Assigns, or to the dwellers and inhabitants of the said province, in the ports, creeks, and shores aforesaid, and especially in the woods and copses growing within the said province. And if any shall do any such damage or injury, he shall incur the heavy displeasure of Us, Our Heirs and Successors, the punishment of the laws, and shall moreover make satisfaction.

We do furthermore will, appoint and ordain, and by these presents, for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, We do grant unto the said now Lord Baltimore, his Heirs and Assigns, that he the said Lord Baltimore, his Heirs and Assigns, may from time to time, for ever, have and enjoy the customs and subsidies in the ports, harbours, and other creeks and places aforesaid, within the province aforesaid, payable or due for merchandizes and wares there to be laded and unladed; the said customs and subsidies to be reasonably assessed (upon any occasion) by themselves and the people there, as aforesaid, to whom we give power, by these presents, for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, upon just cause, and in a due proportion, to assess and impose the same.

And further, of Our special grace, and of Our certain knowledge, and mere motion, We have given and granted, and by these presents, for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, do give and grant, unto the said now Lord Baltimore, his Heirs and Assigns, full and absolute power, licence, and authority, that he the said now Lord Baltimore, his Heirs and Assigns, from time to time hereafter, for ever, at his and their will and pleasure, may assign, alien, grant, demise, or enfeoffe of the premises, so many and such part or parcels to him or them that shall be willing to purchase the same, as they shall think fit; to have and to hold to them the said person or persons willing to take or purchase the same, their Heirs and Assigns, in fee simple, or in fee tail, or for the term of life or lives, or years, to be held of the said now Lord Baltimore, his Heirs and Assigns, by such services, customs, and rents, as shall seem fit to the said now Lord Baltimore, his Heirs and Assigns, and not immediately of Us, Our Heirs or Successors: And to the same person or persons, and to all and every of them, We do give and grant, by these presents, for Us, Our Heirs and Successors, licence, authority and power, that such person or persons may take the premises, or any parcel thereof, of the said now Lord Baltimore, his Heirs or Assigns, and the same hold to themselves, their Heirs or Assigns, (in what estate of inheritance soever, in fee simple, or in fee tail, or otherwise, as to them and the now Lord Baltimore, his Heirs and Assigns, shall seem expedient;) the statute made in the Parliament of Edward, son of King Henry, late King of England, Our predecessor, commonly called the statute "Quia Emptores terrarum," lately published in Our kingdom, England, or any other statute, act, ordinance, use, law or custom, or any other thing, cause or matter

thereupon

thereupon heretofore had, done, publiſhed, ordained or provided to the contrary, in any wiſe notwithſtanding.

And by theſe preſents We give and grant licence unto the ſaid now Lord Baltimore and his Heirs, to erect any parcels of land within the province aforeſaid into Manors, in every the ſaid Manors to have and to hold a Court of Baron, with all things whatſoever which to a Court Baron do belong, and to have and to hold view of frank pledge (for the conſervation of the peace, and the better government of thoſe parts) by themſelves or their Stewards, or by the Lords, for the time being, of other Manors to be deputed, when they ſhall be erected, and in the ſame to uſe all things belonging to view of frankpledge.

And further Our pleaſure is, and by theſe preſents, for Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, We do covenant and grant to and with the ſaid now Lord Baltimore, and his heirs and aſſigns, that We, Our heirs and ſucceſſors, ſhall at no time hereafter ſet or make, or cauſe to ſet any impoſition, cuſtom, or other taxation, rate, or contribution whatſoever, in and upon the dwellers and inhabitants of the aforeſaid province, for their lands, tenements, goods, or chattels within the ſaid province, or in or upon any goods or merchandize within the ſaid province, or to be laden or unladen within the ports or harbours of the ſaid province. And Our pleaſure is, and for Us, Our heirs and ſucceſſors, We charge and command, that this Our declaration ſhall be henceforward, from time to time, be received and allowed in all Our courts, and before all the judges of Us, Our heirs and ſucceſſors, for a ſufficient and lawful diſcharge, payment and acquittance; commanding all and ſingular Our officers and miniſters of Us, Our heirs and ſucceſſors, and enjoining them upon pain of Our high diſpleaſure, that they do not preſume, at any time, to attempt any thing to the contrary of the premiſes, or that they do in any ſort withſtand the ſame; but that they be at all times aiding and aſſiſting, as fitting, unto the ſaid now Lord Baltimore, and his heirs, and to the inhabitants and merchants of Maryland aforeſaid, their ſervants, miniſters, factors, and aſſigns, in the full uſe and fruition of the benefit of this Our charter.

And further, Our pleaſure is, and by theſe preſents, for Us, Our Heirs and Succeſſors, We do grant unto the ſaid now Lord Baltimore, his Heirs and Aſſigns, and to the tenants and inhabitants of the ſaid province of Maryland, both preſent and to come, and to every of them, that the ſaid province, tenants, and inhabitants of the ſaid Colony or country, ſhall not from henceforth be held or reputed as a member, or as part of the land of Virginia, or of any other colony whatſoever, now tranſported or hereafter to be tranſported; nor ſhall be depending on, or ſubject to their government in any thing, from whom We do ſeparate that and them. And Our pleaſure is, by theſe preſents, that they be ſeparated, and that they be ſubject immediately to Our crown of England, as depending thereof for ever.

And if perchance hereafter it ſhould happen, any doubts or queſtions ſhould ariſe concerning the true ſenſe and underſtanding of any word, clauſe, or ſentence contained in this Our preſent charter, We Will, Ordain and Command, that at all times, and in all things, ſuch interpretation be made thereof and allowed, in any of Our courts whatſoever, as ſhall be adjudged moſt advantageous and favourable unto the ſaid now Lord Baltimore, his heirs and aſſigns; provided always, that no interpretation be admitted thereof, by which God's holy and truly Chriſtian Religion, or the allegiance due unto Us, Our heirs and ſucceſſors, may ſuffer any prejudice or diminution; although expreſs mention be not made in theſe preſents of the true yearly value of certainty of the premiſes, or of any part thereof, or of other gifts and grants made by Us, Our progenitors or predeceſſors, unto the ſaid now Lord Baltimore, or any ſtatute, act, ordinance, proviſion, proclamation, or reſtraint heretofore had, made, publiſhed, ordained, or provided, or any other thing, cauſe, or matter whatſoever, to the contrary thereof, in any wiſe notwithſtanding. In witneſs, &c. witneſs Ourſelf at Weſtminſter, the twenty-eight day of June, A. D. 1632. in the Eighth year of our reign.

By Writ of Privy Seal.